**News Release** 

## DeMaio Urges Rejection of Cuts to Libraries and Parks

Millions in Wasteful Spending Should be Reformed
Before Services are Cut

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SAN DIEGO – Councilmember DeMaio today urged his Council colleagues to reject large elements of the Mayor's budget plan citing negative impacts on local neighborhoods and the failure to finish the job of implementing budget reforms.

"After years of severe cuts and wasteful spending San Diegans deserve a budget plan that will protect community services and restore long term fiscal health to our City. As with previous years this budget plan does not do that," stated DeMaio.

DeMaio also questioned the rationale behind the service cuts. "If a library is only open 18 hours a week, what is the point? It's penny wise and pound foolish," stated DeMaio.

DeMaio also cited concerns of cutting funds to swimming pools and after school programs as well as the continued practice of kicking the can down the road by failing to implement long-term fiscal reforms in the budget with \$35.1 million in one-time fixes.

"Just this week, the Council approved labor contracts that were laden with waste," noted DeMaio. "There are layers of excessive management that can be eliminated and many areas for the city to use private-public partnerships to cut costs. Instead of giving taxpayers the reforms they deserve, this budget takes a meat cleaver to their basic services."

Councilmember DeMaio will be holding a budget townhall tonight at the North Park Recreation Center at 6:00 PM at 4044 Idaho St. to discuss the budget solutions laid out in his "Roadmap to Recovery," designed to balance the budget without cutting services.

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